The Anatomiſt Diſſected:

OR THE

Man-Midwife finely brought to Bed.

BEING AN

EXAMINATION

OF THE

CONDUCT

OF

Mr. *St. ANDRE.*

Touching the late pretended Rabbit-bearer; as it appears from his own Narrative.

By *LEMUEL GULLIVER*,
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The THIRD EDITION.

Aſſes and Owls, unſeen, themſelves betray,
When theſe attempt to hoot, or thoſe to bray.
Garth.

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Mr. *St. ANDRE*, &c.

AFTER that long and particular Detail of my ſelf, and of my various Adventures in ſo many different and remote parts of the Globe, as I have lately entertain'd

the Public with, I little thought any private Occurrence, in ſo ſmall a Spot as the Iſland of *Great Britain*, could have rous'd my Attention, and broke in upon that Repoſe, in which I hop'd to have ſpent the Remains of a declining Life. But ſmall and inconſiderable as it is, I conſider it is my own Country; the Thought of which, together with that inextinguiſhable Thirſt after Truth and Knowledge, in regard to my ſelf, and an ardent Inclination of communicating it to others, have prevail'd upon me once more to be expos'd in Print, in order to expreſs my Abhorrence of a late diabolical Impoſture: propagated, not ſo much by the Knavery of ſome, as by the Ignorance and Stupidity of others. I need not ſay I mean the Rabbit Affair;

fair ; with which, for ſome Weeks paſt, the Minds of the People of this Iſland have been ſo ſeriouſly and ſo ſurprizingly employ'd ; ſo as ſcarce to leave them any Leiſure for Things of a more ſublime Nature, and of vaſtly greater Conſequence and Importance.

And tho' I verily believe this to be the real and only Cauſe, why the Peruſal of my Travels has been ſo neglected of late, which, by the Decay of the Sale, has ſenſibly affected a worthy and honeſt Bookſeller ; yet I declare to the World, that my Motives for entering the Liſts againſt Mr. *St. André* (a Perſon to me wholly unknown, and unheard of till I ſaw his Name in the News-Papers, upon that unfortunate Accident,

which befel him, when he fancied he was poyſon'd) are, that little Skill which, by my Education and Experience, I have attain'd in Surgery and Anatomy, and that great Ignorance in both, which he has betray'd upon this Occaſion.

For tho' that Gentleman's Candor is very great in ſhewing ſuch a remarkable Alertneſs, at confeſſing that he has been impos'd upon in this Paltry Buſineſs; and tho' perhaps, by that he may flatter himſelf, that he ſhall eſcape all further Cenſure, yet I ſhall be at the Pains of Convincing the World that he is miſtaken, even in this alſo; and that, had he not been moſt profoundly deficient in that diſcerning Penetration, with which all true Surgeons

make

make Enquiries of this ſort, he might have diſcover'd this Impoſture at the very firſt Sight, and not have drawn in ſo many Perſons of diſtinguiſh'd Senſe and Figure, to be gull'd and deluded by ſo coarſe and palpable a Fraud.

For, to begin with his Narrative; a true Surgeon, one, I mean, orderly and properly educated in that worthy Profeſſion, would never have ſuffer'd his Curioſity to be at all alarm'd by ſeeing a Letter from *Guildford*, which mention'd a Woman's *being deliver'd of five Rabbits*: Suppoſe one were to ſee a Letter from *Batterſea*, importing that a Woman there had been deliver'd of five Cucumbers, or indeed a hundred Letters, would that lead a Man of Senſe to believe

any

any Thing, but, either that the People who wrote thoſe Letters had been groſsly impos'd upon themſelves, or intended to impoſe upon him. Either of theſe two Things may, and do happen every Day; but it was never known, that ever any Creature brought forth any one Creature of a Species in all Reſpects different from it ſelf, much leſs five or ſeventeen ſuch Creatures; for which therefore, a Man of common Senſe, much more a penetrating and quickſighted Anatomiſt, ſhould look upon all ſuch Letters with the utmoſt Contempt.

Yet it was the Sight of two or three ſuch Letters (and thoſe flagrant with moſt conſpicuous Tokens of Impoſture) which induc'd

Mr.

Mr. *St. André*, at this time of the Year, to take two Journeys to *Guildford*, in order to enquire into the Truth of what, in Nature, it was impoſſible ſhould be true. However, to *Guildford* he came for the firſt time; where I ſhall attend him a while, and watch his Motions, perhaps to a better Purpoſe than he did thoſe of the Rabbit-bearing Woman: For tho', with all his Skill he was not able to detect her Fraud, I hope with very little of mine to diſplay his Ignorance.

In the the firſt Place, how ſtupid muſt he have been, not to ſuſpect a Trick, when *Howard*, upon being ſent for, came and acquainted him, *that the Woman was actually in Labour of the fifteenth Rabbit.* This

puts

puts me in Miud of what, above ſix and Forty Years ago, I learn'd at School; where the Sagacity of old *Simo* in the *Andria* of the *Terence* appears, to the utter Shame of our modearn *St. Andrians*: The old Gentleman had Reaſon to ſuſpect Fraud from the known Character of a crafty Knave he had to deal with; and whoſe Buſineſs it was to make him believe, that a certain Lady was juſt then in Labour: Accordingly, as they approach her Houſe, ſhe contrives to be in one of her Labour Pains, and cries out ſo loud that the old Man muſt needs hear it: upon which, I remember, he ſays, with much Humour and Judgment, *Hui, tam cito? ridiculum. Poſtquam ante oſtium me audivit ſtare, approperat. Non ſat commode diviſa ſunt temporibus tibi,*

tibi, Dave, hæc. For thus, had he been credulous enough to go to *Guildford* to inquire into this Cheat, he would have ſaid, in plain *Engliſh*, upon the like Occaſion, *What a pox, is ſhe ſo quick? this is the damn'deſt Joke that ever was: the Moment ſhe hears I am arrived, ſhe falls into one of her Labour Pains*: *ah*, Howard! *this was not well tim'd of you by any means.*

But, to return from this Digreſſion, if the Woman was *actually in Labour of the fifteenth Rabbit*, why ſhould Mr. *Howard* leave her, and ſtay with Mr. *St. André* till they call'd him again, when ſhe was ſaid to be in one of her Labour Pains? Here a wiſe Man would have ſmelt a Rat inſtead of a Rab-

bit: And much more, when this Woman in Labour Pains, and who had been in Labour ſome time then, nay fourteen times before, was *found dreſs'd in her Stays, and ſitting on the Bed-ſide*; and that not for want of Help to put her to Bed; for there were *ſeveral Women near her.* A Man muſt have a ſpritely Genius for ſwallowing Impoſture that was not ſtagger'd at ſuch an Appearance. This ſure it was that prompted Mr. *St. André* to wave all ſuch Reflections, and proceed *immediately to examine her*; when, tho' by his own Confeſſion, he *did not find the Parts prepar'd for her Labour*, (which was another plain Indication of the Roguery) yet he was weak enough to *wait for the coming on of freſh Pains*, and, *in three or four Minutes after, to think*

think he deliver'd her of the intire Trunk, ſtrip'd of its Skin, of a Rabbit about four Months Growth (he meant to have ſaid, of an Animal of the Size and Figure of a Rabbit of four Months Growth) *in which the Heart and Lungs were contain'd, with the Diaphagm iutire.* Well, what does my Gentleman then? He *inſtantly cut of a piece of them, and tried them in Water*; in which they ſwam, and when they were *preſs'd to the Bottom, roſe again.* Now, it being notoriouſly the Property of the Lungs of a *Fœtus* to ſink, and of a Creature which has been ſome time brought forth alive to ſwim, in Water; what but an abſolute Prepoſſeſſion in favour of this filthy Miracle, or a conſummate Ignorance in theſe Matters could have hinder'd any ſo-

ber Inquirer from being determin'd in relation to this Cheat, by the foregoing Trial? Yet Mr. *St. André* never boggles at this, nor at the Impoſſibility of the Trunk of ſuch a Creature's (ſuppos'd but juſt before to be alive) being ſtript of its Skin, by the contractive Faculty of the Womb; nor at the Woman's being *chearful and eaſy, and walking by her ſelf from the Bed-ſide to the Fire the Moment ſhe was deliver'd:* But goes on *conjecturing* in a yet more abſurd manner, that theſe Creatures, (as big as Rabbits of four Months Growth, which muſt be within a Trifle as big as full grown ones,) were bred in the *Fallopian Tubes*; and came into the *Uterus* one after another, where they lay and kick'd, till they were preſs'd to Death, and

ſtead, and all their Bones broken, in ſuch a manner, that they were ſenſiby heard to ſnap, by the violent convulſive Motions of it.

I take the Liberty to inform my Readers, upon this Occaſion, that the *Fallopian Tubes* are a Paſſage of Communication, of ſcarce three Inches long, between the *Ovaria* and *Uterus*; thro' which the *Embryo*, after Conception, is convey'd from the one to the other. And tho' at that End next the *Uterus* they open, ſomewhat like the Mouth of a Trumpet, yet, when ſtreteh'd to the utmoſt, the general Canal of them ſcarce exceeds the Thickneſs of ones Finger: And therefore the Impoſſibility of any one ſuch Creature being contain'd there, much

leſs

leſs of eighteen, as this Gentleman ſuppos'd, muſt appear to every one of a common Underſtanding. He tells us, no Blood nor Water iſſued from the *Vagina* after this Delivery, and that her Pulſe was regular. Monſtrous! that none of theſe Indications ſhould open Mr. *St. André*'s Eyes. If he thought at all, what could he be thinking of? It is notorious, that in Births of dead Children, Women ſuffer much more Pain than in thoſe of Living ones; ſo as to be, during the Operation, in high Fevers, with irregular Pulſes, and left in great Weakneſs afterwards. Yet this Woman is deliver'd of fifteen dead Rabbits, ſuch as of four Months Growth, without any Alteration in her Pulſe, without the leaſt Inflammation or Laceration in

her

her *Vagina*, walking from the Bed-ſide, ſitting down in a Chair by the Fire, as well as if nothing had happen'd; and skilful Mr. *St. André* ſwallowing this foul Impoſture, without the leaſt Squeamiſhneſs or Reluctance.

In the *Rectum* of this Animal, which remain'd affix'd to the Body, Mr. *St. André* finds *five or ſix Pellets, much of the ſame Colour and Conſiſtence of the common Dung of a Rabbit.* Strange! that this ſhould not alarm him! (it being notorious that the Excrement of a *Fœtus* is always liquid) but this he ſwallows likewiſe; as he does *the Skin roll'd and ſqueez'd up like a Ball*, which he delivers her of ſome time after: And not long after that, of *the Head, with the Fur on, Part of*

one

one of the Ears being torn off. Upon all which Occaſions, I mean thoſe of the Womb's having the Faculty of skinning a Rabbit all but the Head, of rolling this Skin up like a Ball, and tearing off a Piece of an Ear; this Gentleman ſpeaks as familiarly as if they were common Caſes, which wanted not in the leaſt to be accounted for, or wonder'd at.

In the Intervals between theſe notable Deliveries, Mr. *St. André* diverted himſelf and his Company, *by examining the ſeveral Rabbits, which were kept ſeparate, in diſtinct Pots, with Spirits of Wine, in the Order that they were brought away.* Here likewiſe, I will do my ſelf the Honour to attend him. And now, methinks, I ſee him expatiating, in a very genteel adroit manner, upon the

the general Reſemblance, but particular and ſignificant Difference between them and natural Rabbits.

" *The firſt*, ſays he, *does not appear* " *to be a perfect Rabbit, in all its Parts.* (Here one would ſuppoſe, the Difference lay in ſome one or two, at moſt, minute, not eaſily obſervable, Circumſtances, in which this Creature varied from a Rabbit: But, on the contrary, it ſeems 'twas a perfect Cat in all its Parts, one or two only excepted.) " *Three of the Feet* " *being like the Paws of a Cat; the* " *Stomach and Inteſtines like thoſe in* " *the ſame Animal; as alſo the Shape* " *and Figure of the* Thorax. Ob- " ſerve, *the Lungs and Heart, how* " *entirely they are out of their natu-* " *ral Situation; and ſqueez'd out be-* " *tween the upper Ribs, and* Verte-

 bræ

" bræ *of the Neck* (doubtleſs by the
" convulſive Motion of the *Uterus*)
" *to which Parts*, obſerve how
" *ſtrongly they grow and adhere. The*
" *Lungs of this Creature, had they*
" *been plac'd in their natural Cavi-*
" *ty, would not have fill'd above a ſixth*
" *Part of it. The Bones of this Crea-*
" *ture are likewiſe all ſo different in*
" *Subſtance and Structure from thoſe*
" *of common Rabbits*, that o' my Con-
" ſcience, *the Head and one Paw*
" *only excepted*, I think it has not the
" leaſt Reſemblance of them. *All*
" *the other thirteen Animals* I pro-
" nounce *to be in every particular, like*
" *well-form'd, common, natural Rab-*
" *bits, from the ſize of two Months*
" *Growth to four. Theſe have been*
" *all broken to pieces much in the*
" *ſame manner; but when theſe ſeve-*
ral

" *ral parts are put together in their pro-*
" *per order, they manifeſtly make up*
" *and appear to belong to the abovemen-*
" *tion'd Animals.* I confeſs *the* Viſ-
" cera *are wanting in four or five of*
" *them*; but that is not very materi-
" al; that Defect is amply ſupply'd
" by this *one remarkable Circumſtance,*
" *which is, that moſt of theſe Animals*
" (for Rabbits I will not call them)
" *as far as I can judge, are Females.*
" *The Fleſh of theſe Creatures, parti-*
" *cularly of that which I extracted, has*
" *the Smell of Rabbits juſt kill'd; and*
" *the Subſtance of their Bones are, in*
" *all reſpects, like the Bones of* Fœtus
" *Rabbits.* (How particular, how
" dilucid, and exact is this part of
" his Lecture!) *From all theſe Con-*
" *ſiderations* (and many more too te-
" dious and impertinent to be reci-

" ted) with greater Assurance than
" Knowledge, *I am fully convinc'd,*
" *that, at the same time that the ex-*
" *ternal Appearance of these Animals*
" *is exactly like such Creatures as must*
" *inevitably undergo the Changes that*
" *happen to adult Animals, by* Food
" *and Air, they carry within them the*
" *strongest Marks of* Fœtus's, *even in*
" *such Parts as cannot exist in an A-*
" *dult, and without which a* Fœtus
" *cannot possibly be suppos'd to live.*
" *This, I think, proves in the strongest*
" *Terms possible, that these Animals*
" *are of a particular kind, and not bred*
" *in a natural way; nor will there be*
" *any Doubt remaining (even with the*
" *least knowing in these Matters)*
" when these things come to be
" clear'd up by *the Anatomy of these*
" *præternatural Rabbits* (a præterna-

tural

" tural Anatomiſt Thou art without
" Diſpute) *which I ſhall publiſh with*
" *all convenient Speed, with their Fi-*
" *gures taken from the Life, and com-*
" *par'd with the Parts of Rabbits of*
" *the ſame Growth* (he would have
" ſaid *the ſame ſize*) *that the Diffe-*
" *rences before-mention'd may be fully*
" *underſtood.*

This therefore the publick has ſtill juſt Reaſon to inſiſt upon from Mr. *St. André*; for, however he may pretend to be impos'd upon by others in the Delivery of theſe Suppoſititious Rabbits, the learned anatomical Obſervations, recited above, are purely the Reſult of his own Skill and Judgment; and cannot with any Colour of Reaſon, be plac'd to the Account of Fraud and

Impoſture

Impoſture in others. Eſpecially *thoſe Facts* which he has the Aſſurance to ſay *were verified before his Majeſty on* Saturday, Nov. *the 26th, by the anatomical Demonſtration of the firſt, the third, fifth and ninth of theſe Animals.*

However, not content with havingly ſufficiently plac'd his Reputation at ſtake in this audacious manner (for ſuch I muſt call it) on the wretched Obſervations abovementi-on'd, *out he ſets for* Guildford *again, being reſolv'd to bring the Woman to Town if there was any Proſpect of more Rabbits.* What could this Creature, this Animal have in his Head to hinder him from concluding that a Woman in ſuch a Condition (were it poſſible any Woman could be in ſuch a Condition) ſhould

ſhould not be mov'd out of her Bed; much leſs out of her Houſe, and much leſs from *Guildford* to *London*. Yet ſince he is reſolv'd upon another Expedition, I am reſolv'd once more to attend him thither, and obſerve his Motions.

And here he is again ſo keen upon this vile falſe Scent, that tho' he finds Mr. *Howard* ſtanding at his Door, who tells him that he hop'd all was over, becauſe that he did not perceive in the *Uterus* any Motion as uſual, yet he viſited her ſeveral Times that Day, proceeded in every Reſpect, with the ſame Sagacity as before; and towards eight a Clock that Evening, deliver'd her of a Piece of one of the Membranes of a *Placenta* (admirable!) roll'd

up

up like Parchment. This ſhews how well he is acquainted with the Texture of thoſe Membranes. And his Deficiency in that Point was further confirm'd by a ſecond Delivery of (what he took to be) *another Piece of Membrane, in Structure, Shape and Size, exactly like the former.*

Thus I have touch'd upon, and I hope abundantly expos'd the profound Obſervations contain'd in Mr. *St. André*'s ſhort *Narrative.* Whenever he appears in Print again, upon this Occaſion, as I find he threatens to do, I ſhall again be ready to guard the Public againſt being deluded by his pretended Diſcoveries. And, tho' it is not my Nature to inſult any Man upon Account of his Misfortunes, whether brought upon

on him by his own Folly, or the Malice of others; yet give me Leave to ſay, it is, of the two, a much more eligible Evil, that the Preſumption of one ignorant Empiric, ſhould undergo a public Chaſtiſement, than the Underſtandings, of ſo many of his Majeſty's Loyal Subjects, be corrupted by ſuch ſham Demonſtrations.

But, after all, as I am a no leſs ſtrict Lover of Juſtice, than an indefatigable Searcher after Truth; now my Reſentment of Mr. *St. André*'s ill Conduct in this Affair, is ſomewhat cool'd by the Liberty I have taken in cenſuring and expoſing it, I ſhall offer ſomething, by Way of Abatement of that ſevere Conſtruction, the World will be apt

to paſs upon his Judgment in this Affair.

In the *firſt* Place, I have the Charity to believe he has been egregiouſly impos'd upon, in Relation to the Character he has publiſh'd of Mr. *Howard*, whom he ſtiles, *a Man of known Probity*; whereas that Name is as notorious at *Guildford*, and the Parts adjacent, for denoting a Whisker, as ever mine was at *Redriff*, for eſtabliſhing a Truth. *Secondly*, it muſt be conſider'd that the Pleaſure of being talk'd of, and heard to talk, in all Companies public and private, as the very ſecond Diſcoverer (Mr. *Howard* being indiſputably the firſt) of this extraordinary and prætrnatural Production, muſt needs ſwell the Mind of

a raw Practitioner with Vanity, and make him run blindfold into a Series of Abſurdities; no one of which, at another Time, would have found any Admittance within the Bar of his Judgment. And *Thirdly*, The Nature of Climates, together with the ſeveral Makes, Capacities and Tempers of the Inhabitants of different Countries, are the Reaſon why Things may appear puzzling and perplexing in one Place, which in another would be accounted for, with the greateſt Eaſe and Certainty imaginable; and why that, which is here a Cauſe of the higheſt Ridicule, in a contrary Part of the Globe, would be the Occaſion of raiſing a Man's Character to the moſt exalted Pitch of Dignity and Reputation.

For Example, had a Native of the Kingdom of *Lilliput*, happen'd to be in this our Iſland, when the Story of the Rabbits was firſt vented at Court; and had ſuch a one been diſpatch'd to *Guildford*, in Order to enquire into the Truth of that Matter; upon the firſt View of thoſe Pellets, againſt which Mr. *St. André* had no Objection, he, with his fine Microſcopic Eyes, would have inſtantly diſcover'd every particular Herb the Creature had fed on that Meal. And what Mr. *St. André* calls *a dirty-colour'd* Mucus, *ſuch as is conſtantly found in the Bowels of all* Fœtus *Animals, and ſuch as in thoſe that void their Excrements in Pellets, is commonly hard and dry*, our *Lilli-*

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putian would have diſtinguiſh'd to have been nothing but a Parcel of mere Rabbit's Dung, which to him would have appear'd as coarſe and and large as a Scavenger's Load, freſh taken from a Butcher's Lay-ſtall would do to us. And that which, *in the middle of the Gut* Ilium *of the Cat*, Mr. *St. André* thought was *like a very ſmall Fiſh Bones*, the more quick-ſighted little Man would have demonſtrated to have been nothing more than the Bones of a Herring, which that Creature had devoured a few Hours before it was thruſt into the *Vagina* of *Mary Toft*'s *Uterus*. Tho, as Arts are very much improv'd with us, I queſtion whether a very ordinary magnifying Glaſs, ſuch as Children uſe to divert themſelves

ſelves with, might not have made the Diſcovery as well.

But, if I am rightly inform'd, as to the Nature of Mr. *St. André*'s Education, I am ſtrangely ſurpriz'd that He, of all People, ſhould appear ſo unacquainted with the Materials of which the Strings of a Fiddle are compos'd.

Again, tho', in any of the *European* Nations, thoſe that pretend to any Skill in Anatomy or Midwifery would be ſcouted to Eternity for only queſtioning, or going to make Inquiry, whether it was poſſible for a Woman to be delivered of eighteen Rabbits, from two to four Months Growth; or a *Fœtus* of that Size, but juſt dead, and whoſe *Fleſh ſmelt*

like

like that of a Rabbit newly kill'd, ſhould be voided in Fragments and Bits ; or that the ſame Woman, notwithſtanding all theſe Deliveries, ſhould be, during the whole time, perfectly healthy and well, feeding on nothing but Beef, Red-herring, *&c.* or that a Piece of Hog's Bladder could be part of the *Chorion*, or Membrane of the *Placenta* ; yet give me leave to ſay, that in the Kingdom of *Balnibarbi*, theſe things would appear in quite another Light. There, tho' a *Virtuoſo* ſhould only endeavour at a Demonſtration of this kind, ſpend many Years in the Attempt, and all his Labours prove abortive at laſt, yet would his Suppoſitions be ſure to meet with ſo kind a Reception from the publick, as to procure, at leaſt, his being adopted,

nemine

nemine contradicente, into the Academy of Sciences there; (of which I profeſs my ſelf an unworthy Member.) Nay, it is ten to one but he would be taken up into the floating Iſland, and appointed Anatomiſt extraordinary to the Court of *Laputa*.

Such is the Uſe I am always determin'd to make of this my Knowledge of the World and Mankind. As I will not ſuffer any upſtart Pretender, of what Profeſſion ſoever, to monopolize and vend his Abſurdities within this my native Country, without ſuch Animadverſions as may ſerve to warn the publick againſt him: So, on the other ſide, if he happens to have any Merit which would ſhine and be diſtinguiſh'd in other Regions of the Earth, I

ſhall

ſhall be ready to do Juſtice in that Point alſo, by letting him know in what part of the World he may be ſure to find a proper Reward.

But I can't conclude, without ſeriouſly lamenting the great Detriment like to accrue to our Nation by the Stir which has been made about this foul Impoſture, both by the Actors and Examiners of it; and that as well in regard to the Warreners and Poulterers, (who complain that the Conſumption of Rabbits, within this Metropolis, is become, by two thirds, leſs than it was formerly;) as in relation to thoſe obſcene and indecent Images, which for more than theſe nine Days laſt paſt, beyond all Example, have fill'd the Minds, and furniſh'd out

the Converſation of People of all Ranks, Ages and Conditions. And whether Ideas of this Nature are fit to be put into the Heads of rude Boys, Boarding-ſchool Girls, and Old Maids, I leave every diſcreet and prudent Matron to judge.

F I N I S.